

MEMORIAL, PENN., No. 27, 1875.

Col. W. F. Miller: My DEAR SIR:—Please accept my thanks for your kind letter of the 19th inst. and in reply a copy of a St. Louis paper containing an extract from the foregoing work of General W. T. Sherman. My absence delayed the receipt of your letter and this reply.

But the question arises, why did General Sherman, at the date of his reported conversation with General J. E. Johnston, suppose me capable of complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln?

Was it not that proceeding on the rule of judging others by oneself, he ascribed to me the murderous and malicious traits of his own nature?

He reports a conversation with President Lincoln, from which it is inferred a desire to have authority for departing from the course, which as a soldier, he must have known was usual and proper toward prisoners of war.

From the statement of General Sherman we learn that a story had been told to the effect that I was carrying in wagons millions of specie to the south; and therefore, we are left to conclude, made that expedition in violation of the agreement of surrender.

Though the story of the millions of specie is now admitted by General Sherman to have been a fiction, the admission is made in such terms as would leave the leader to suppose that I had been traveling with wagon transportation, and had a few thousand dollars of specie in my valise.

Should the course of the commanding general of the army, in attempting at this late date, to rescind a defunct slander against the President of the late Confederacy, and to which slander not even suborned witnesses could give the semblance of truth, be taken as the exponent of the feeling of the army, that arm of the general government would seem to be ill-suited to its task of late so largely assigned to it, of preserving civil order, and of restoring harmony among the people of the United States.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Civil Rights Bill Upon Us.

The decisions of two or three United States District Judges declaring the Civil Rights Bill unconstitutional gave hope that we were to be relieved from its odious, lawless and unreasonable workings. Within a few days a theatrical manager in Galveston, Texas, has been fined \$500 for refusing to give seats in the parquet to two colored women, and the proprietors of a newspaper in that city, for commenting respectfully upon the rulings of the Judge, were dragged before the Court for contempt.

The decision of Judge Nelson we have published. In like all the arguments in favor of the lawfulness of this law, betrays its own weakness. He thinks "where race, color, nativity or religious or political belief furnishes the only reason for the commission of such wrong or outrage, a proper occasion arises for the exercise of the power of Congress under this amendment."

As "this amendment" (the Fourteenth) has no reference whatever to "religious or political belief," Judge Nelson has, to begin with, brought his decision into utter disrespect. The first section of the amendment, the only one applicable to the case, confers citizenship upon "all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof," forbids any State to "make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States," or to "deny to any person the equal protection of the laws."

It says no more than this on which to hang Judge Nelson's decision. Before the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment it was never affirmed by any competent Court that Congress or the United States Courts had jurisdiction over such cases. The Fourteenth Amendment gives nothing to the State. It simply forbids something to it. But Judge Nelson says that "Congress can provide for the punishment of individuals who deprive any person of the enjoyment of the rights of citizenship and legal equality solely on account of race and color."

That is equivalent to saying that the Fourteenth Amendment gives more citizenship to one man than it does to another, which is, of course, absurd. But, perhaps, the most ridiculous portion of Judge Nelson's reasoning is that, when Congress has only forbidden certain obnoxious legislation to a State, "Congress can legislate, even though a State had passed no obnoxious law, and may also in advance, by such enactments as it may deem suitable and necessary, remedy the evil against which this amendment proposes to guard."

He bases this doctrine upon the fifth section of the amendment, which gives Congress the power to enforce its provisions by appropriate legislation. But Congress would have that power without this section. But Judge Nelson's logic gives Congress the power to enforce provisions which are not in the amendment, as he admits, and even then, Congressional legislation "in advance," also not warranted by the Constitution, can hardly be called "enforcing." But this is the legal acumen and the judicial ability of Judge Nelson, and on such reasoning alone can the constitutionality of the Civil Rights Bill rest.

Judge Nelson says that the Fourteenth Amendment "creates citizenship." It does nothing of the kind. Citizenship existed before Judge Nelson. It confers that citizenship upon people who had not previously possessed it—that citizenship and no other. He says that "these rights and privileges are derived from the Federal Government and are under its protection."

Heavens! How many rights and privileges are derived from the Federal Government which are under the protection of the State! Upon this very point Justice Bradley has said: "When any of these rights and privileges are secured by the Constitution of the United States only by a declaration that the State or the United States shall not violate or abridge them, it is at once understood that they are not created or conferred by the Constitution, but that the Constitution only guarantees that they shall not be impaired by the State, or United States, as the case may be."

POLICE JURY PROCEEDINGS.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

Resolved, That a sum not to exceed Four Hundred Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to repair the bridge across Bayou Grand, known as Loyd's, and that H. K. Gordon, D. W. Williams and J. P. Snelling be appointed Commissioners to let out and receive the work.

On motion of Mr. Andrews, Resolved, That the following gentlemen, John Innis, J. W. Texada and W. G. Yarborough, be appointed Commissioners to let out and receive the building of a bridge, known as Lamotte's, that the sum of Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to build said bridge, and that the contractors have the privilege of using any timber on the old structure.

On motion of Mr. Sorrell, Resolved, That the sum of Three Hundred Dollars be, and is hereby appropriated, to repair the bridge over Bayou Rapides, known as Texada's bridge, and that Dr. James Cruikshank, John Dawson and Webb Taylor be appointed Commissioners to let out and receive the same.

On motion of Mr. Sorrell, Resolved, That the sum of Seventy-five Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for repairing the bridge over the Cocodrie, Cotteau Ward, near Yarborough's, and that Wm. L. Yarborough, Lewis Texada and S. A. Campbell be appointed Commissioners to let out and receive the same.

Be it ordained by the Police Jury, that in pursuance of Petition, signed by citizens of the vicinity, asking for a Public Road, leading from Paul's Store to Calhoun's Store, on Spring Creek, the following named Commissioners, composed of Harris B. Noyes, J. O. McNutt, J. Baunidge, J. C. Cook, John H. Carruth and W. C. Squires, is appointed to lay out and superintend the construction of the same, as asked for in said petition, provided that the Parish is not put to any expense.

On motion, The Jury adjourned until tomorrow at 2 o'clock P. M.

JAMES R. ANDREWS, President. H. M. LABAT, Clerk.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., June 10, 1875. The Jury met pursuant to adjournment. Same Members present as yesterday. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with. The Finance Committee reported favorably on the following bills:

- G. W. Compton, J. P. \$113 50 approved for 338 50
W. W. Whittington, J. P. \$36 00 approved for 32 00
E. B. Amos, J. P. \$16 25 approved for 16 25
J. H. Dawson, J. P. \$13 90 approved for 1 50
L. V. Marie, J. P. \$31 50 approved for 31 50
J. L. Walker, J. P. \$14 75 approved for 14 75

CONSTABLE FEES. J. M. Dupuis, C. F.'s \$38 50 approved for 37 00
M. N. James, C. F.'s \$15 30 approved for 4 50
W. H. Shadburne, Coroner \$154 00 approved for 154 00

- Stacy, Certificates to Jury, on request approved for 56 50
Reuben Burke burying unknown woman approved for 12 00
P. Kelly burying Paupers 24 00
Samuel P. Meeker Post Mortem examination on J. D. Thompson 10 00
Samuel P. Meeker Post Mortem examination on Samuel Sweetman 10 00
Henry St. John, Stationery & Medicines 75 00

On motion, the Report of Finance was approved.

On motion the claim of G. W. Harpe for Constable Fees, which was laid over was taken up and approved for Seventeen Dollars.

The following Bills were not allowed and laid over: C. M. Wells serving Warrant and Mileage \$11 40
A. Cocke's viewing body negro J. Donahoe, Wood Bill laid over for approval by Sheriff 66 40
Mrs. L. E. A. Wood, wood Bill laid over for approval by Sheriff 28 40
S. Pincus, Room Rent for Election 15 00
F. B. Amaden, Holding Inquest Basins 30 00
Claims of Jurors, laid over until next meeting 15 30

On motion the Bill of S. Pincus for Fifteen Dollars was approved for ten dollars.

On motion, the Finance Committee was dissolved for the present session.

On motion the Jury adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

JAMES R. ANDREWS, President. H. M. LABAT, Clerk.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., June 11th 1875. 10 o'clock, A. M. The Jury met pursuant to adjournment. All the members present.

The minutes of the two previous days were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Sorrell, Resolved, That the salary of the Parish Attorney be increased to Four Hundred Dollars per annum.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Resolved, That David G. Paul, Sheriff, be appointed Officer of the Jury.

On motion of Mr. Sorrell, Resolved, That a road be opened between the lower line of the Corporation of Alexandria and all lands lying south of said corporate limits, to extend from the River to what is known as the Jones Tract—which road shall be opened by the 1st day of October next. That E. V. Maye and W. N. Calvit be appointed Commissioners to open said road, all expense incurred to be borne by the parties owning either side of the road.

By Mr. Andrews, Be it ordained, That from and after date of the passage of this ordinance it shall be unlawful for any Store within the limits of the Parish to remain open to the public on Sundays after the hour of 9 o'clock A. M.—Be it further ordained, That any person violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of (\$85). Twenty-five Dollars for each infraction of the same, to be collected by the Parish Attorney, before any competent authority. One-half of said fine to go to the informer. Be it further ordained, That this ordinance shall not apply to any Drug Store or Warehouse, within the limits of said Parish.

By Mr. Andrews, Be it ordained by the Police Jury of the Parish of Rapides, that the Sheriff of the Parish of Rapides, shall be allowed and receive the following fees and costs in criminal suits, in said Parish and no more, to wit: For serving State Warrant \$1 00
Conveying Prisoner to Jail 50
Summons for each Witness and return 50
For empanelling & calling Petty Jury 1 00
Summons of Jurors, each 1 00
Taking Bond for each Juror 1 00
Att'g Dist. & Par. Court per day 5 00
Attending on Grand Jury 5 00
That the Justices of the Peace throughout the Parish shall charge the amounts as set forth in the Fee Bill Act of 1870, and no more.

Be it further ordained, That all ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be, and the same is hereby repealed, and that the same be further repealed, and that this ordinance take effect from and after its passage.

Mr. Levi Stewart, Officer of the Jury, tendered his resignation: ALEXANDRIA, LA., June 11, 1875.

I hereby tender my resignation as Officer of the Jury.

Respectfully Yours, LEVI STEWART.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Resolved, That David G. Paul, Sheriff, be appointed Officer of the Jury, for the unexpired term of Levi Stewart.

On motion, The Jury adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

JAMES R. ANDREWS, President. H. M. LABAT, Clerk.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., June 11, 1875. The Jury met pursuant to adjournment. Same Members present as yesterday. The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Mr. Dean in the Chair. By Mr. Andrews, Resolved, That the Police Jury of the Parish of Rapides be amended to elect a Justice of the Peace to be elected and re-elected so as to read as follows:

Any owner or agent of real estate in the Parish of Rapides, or house holder in the Parish of Rapides, who is a Parish Ranger, is hereby authorized to take up any stray horse, mules or oxen, and he shall, within five days after such stray is taken up, deliver the same to the nearest Justice of the Peace, for which such person shall receive the sum of Two Dollars, to be paid by the owner of such stray if any appear, and if no owner appear, out of the proceeds of the sale of the stray if made under the provision of Sec. 3 of this Ordinance.

Any person other than such as are above described, who shall take up a stray animal, shall be subject to a fine of \$25 to be recovered by the Parish Attorney before a competent Justice of the Peace, one half of which fine shall go to the owner of such stray, and the other half to the Justice of the Peace.

Sec. 2. The said Justice of the Peace shall have the care and custody of said stray until sold according to law, and he shall receive compensation for the same at the rate of 15 cts. per day for each day he shall have the care and custody of such stray, but he shall not be held liable for any loss or damage to such stray, if he shall keep a record of said appraisement of the mark, brand, color, size and kind of animal, and the name of the individual taking up such stray, and if he shall file a copy of said record to the Parish Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to enter such record in a book kept for that purpose.

Sec. 3. The said Justice of the Peace shall also have the care and custody of any stray animal which he shall find in the Parish of Rapides, and he shall have the same appraised by two resident citizens; he shall keep a record of said appraisement of the mark, brand, color, size and kind of animal, and the name of the individual taking up such stray, and if he shall file a copy of said record to the Parish Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to enter such record in a book kept for that purpose.

Sec. 4. The said Justice of the Peace shall receive compensation of Two Dollars for his care and custody of any stray animal that may be brought before him, the said sum to be paid by the owner of said stray, or, if sold, out of the proceeds of said sale.

Sec. 5. In all cases, if the owner appear and prove his claim before the Justice of the Peace who took up such stray, he shall receive his compensation from said owner, before delivery, as though the same were made; but in such case, the Justice of the Peace shall receive no compensation, and he shall be allowed per day for taking care of said stray, as provided in Sec. 2 of this Ordinance. If no owner appear as prescribed in Sec. 3, and the sale be made, the Justice of the Peace shall retain the expenses incurred in the care and custody of such stray, shall, without delay, deposit the balance in the hands of the Parish Treasurer.

Sec. 6. If any person or persons, who may take up an stray, shall fail to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, or shall work such stray previous to bringing same before the Justice of the Peace, he shall be subject to pay to the owner of such stray, the sum of One Dollar as per day, and he shall also work the same, or any damage to the said owner, he has sustained therefor, to be recorded before any competent Justice of the Peace.

Sec. 7. If any person, who may take up an stray, shall fail to report the same to a Justice of the Peace as provided in Sec. 1, of this ordinance, he shall be subject to a fine of Fifty Dollars, recoverable by the Parish Attorney before any competent Justice of the Peace.

Sec. 8. If any person shall take up any wild cow, without the consent of the owner, he shall be subject to a fine of Twenty Five Dollars, one half of said fine to go to the owner of said cow or cows, and the balance in the Parish Treasury, to be recovered before any competent Justice of the Peace.

Sec. 9. Any Justice of the Peace who shall fail or refuse to pay to the Parish Treasurer, the proceeds of the Sale of Estry animals as provided in Sec. 4 of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$50 to be recovered by the Parish Attorney before any competent Justice of the Peace.

Sec. 10. The office of Parish Ranger is hereby abolished, and all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Sec. 11. This Ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage, and that the same be further repealed, and that this ordinance take effect from and after its passage.

On motion, The following Estimate made for the Parish Expenses for the year 1875:

- Jurors and Witnesses Fees \$3000 00
Magistrates & Constables Fees 1500 00
Police Jurors 500 00
Officers of Jury 1250 00
Tollers Fees & Expenses 1200 00
Printers 200 00
Coroner's 400 00
Sheriff's & Clerk's Fees 2000 00
Bridge Fund [paid in Currency] 2500 00
Contingent Expenses 1500 00
Court House fund paid in currency 3000 00
Total \$15,000 00

On motion of Mr. Williams, Resolved, That all appropriations made, shall be kept by the Clerk of the Police Jury, under their proper headings, in a book, and that the warrants issued shall be certificates, or orders on the Parish Treasurer, shall exceed the amount of such appropriations.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Resolved, That the Bridge Tax and Court House Fund be collected in currency, and that the warrants issued shall state against the fund if it be drawn.

On motion of Mr. Dean, Resolved, That the salary of the Clerk of the Police Jury be increased to Four Hundred Dollars per annum.

Resolved, That One Hundred Dollars, or as many thereof as may be needed, be used by Mr. John A. Williams to level the Court House square.

On motion, Resolved, That the Officer of this Jury be directed to call on Captain C. E. Hoesa, Parish Ranger, and inform him of any and all stock that he may have in his possession as Parish Ranger, the officer will upon their delivery, turn them over to any magistrate, that they may be disposed of as the law directs, for the sale of Estrays.

Resolved, That H. M. Labat be authorized to procure a blank book for the purpose of keeping accounts as per appropriations made by the Police Jury, June 11th, 1875 and to purchase a Desk for the use of the Police Jury.

By Mr. Williams, Resolved, That J. M. Barrett and John A. Williams be appointed commissioners for the purpose of having a Water closet and screen built in Court House Square, and a top on cistern, chain pump repaired, latrine house with shingle roof over cistern, to let out and receive said work having the same done in good workmanlike manner, and report at next regular meeting.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Resolved, That the President of the Police Jury shall let out all the Forges in the Parish of Rapides for the term of five years, commencing at the expiration of the present Charter, at the Court House in Alexandria after advertising thirty days in conformity to the Law, Acts of 1870, Page 294. See 1502, the fees for crossing to be the same as under existing Charters.

On motion of Mr. Sorrell, Resolved, That the reading of the Louisiana Democrat be requested to publish the proceedings of the Police Jury.

On motion, The Jury adjourned to meet on the fourth Monday in October, 1875.

JAMES R. ANDREWS, President. H. M. LABAT, Clerk.

A CENTENNIAL INCIDENT.—The following is an interesting reminiscence of the revolution:

When the intelligence of the battle of Lexington reached Winchester, Frederick county, Virginia, it created great excitement, and measures were immediately taken to furnish their Northern brethren aid. A company of ninety-six hardy young woodsmen was raised, the commissioned officers of which were: Captain Daniel Morgan, afterwards a brigadier in the Continental line, and the hero of Cowpens; John Humphreys, who was killed at Quebec, was his first lieutenant; William Meth, afterwards a colonel, who was greatly distinguished in the subsequent events of the war, was his second lieutenant.

His ensign was Charles Porterfield, afterwards a colonel, and an officer who, by his many brilliant and daring achievements, had earned a proud name among the defenders of his country, and was rapidly rising to distinction when he fell on the bloody field of Camden. A finer body of men than those who composed the company were seldom seen. One that rendered better service or that shed a brighter lustre on the arms of their country never had existence. After the company was well equipped and officered, they took up the march for Boston, which they reached in twenty-one days, having traveled six hundred miles, without losing a man by sickness or desertion on the route.

—JUDGE Noah Davis, who presided over the trial of William M. Tweed, has now an opportunity to reflect upon the mutability of human affairs and the traditional ingratitude of Republics. Although a Judge may retain the appeal papers of a criminal, yet sooner or later the facts which relate to a trial which involves the rights and liberties of every member of the community must come up for the revision of the Court of ultimate jurisdiction, and the position of a prejudiced and partisan Judge then becomes a by-word and a reproach. So note it be!—[Cincinnati Enquirer.]

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